

REMARKS

The claims remaining in the application are Claims 22-30, a total of 9 claims. The fee for the additional independent claims is authorized.

Reconsideration of the various grounds of rejection is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the remarks which follow.

Election/Restriction Requirement

Applicants have elected the claims of group II (Claims 21–30) for prosecution in this application. The remaining withdrawn claims have been cancelled subject to the filing of a divisional application containing such claims.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) in the use of reference characters “22” and “92”.

The Examiner objected to the Drawings for using the reference numeral “22” for both “panel” and “pad” on page 17. This is a patent error which applicants have corrected by amending the specification at page 17, lines 13 and 15 to change “pad” to “panel”.

The Examiner objected to the Drawing in use of the reference numeral “92” to designate both a frame (page 21, line 20) and bolts (page 21, line 22). Again, this is a patent error which has been corrected by changing the reference numeral “92” to “94” at page 21, line 22 so that line 22 correctly refers to the bolts which were previously designated at page 21, line 20.

Specification

The Examiner required a new, more descriptive title. Applicant has amended the title to “FLOOR CLEANING APPARATUS WITH CONTROL CIRCUITRY”. It is believed the Title

is now more descriptive and useful for search purposes. However, if the Examiner would like to suggest an alternate title, applicants welcome such suggestion.

The Rejection Under 35 USC 112

Claims 22, 23 and 26-29 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in view of the detailed reasons presented by the Examiner. Applicant has made the amendments to the claims as suggested by the Examiner and are now believed to be in compliance with 35 USC 112.

The Rejection Under 35 USC 102

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Erko. Applicant believes it is not clear that Erko describes parallel execution of first and second program modules as in Claim 21. However, in order to expedite prosecution while still protecting the commercial embodiments of the invention, applicants have cancelled Claim 21 and this ground of rejection is no longer applicable.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that Claim 30 is allowed.

The Examiner stated that Claims 24 and 25 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Applicants have now rewritten Claim 24 as an independent claim containing the features of rejected Claim 21 and this claim is now believed in condition for allowance.

The Examiner indicated that Claim 26 would be allowable if re-written to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112. Applicants have made the suggested amendments to the claims and it is believed it is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner indicated that Claims 22, 23 and 27-29 would be allowable in rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112 and to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 22 and 23 have been rewritten as independent claims containing

the features of cancelled Claim 21 on which they originally depended. Thus, it is believed that Claims 22 and 23 are now allowable. Claims 27-29 have been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112. As these claims are dependent from Claim 26 which has been amended and which is believed allowable, as indicated above, it is believed Claims 27-29 are now also allowable.

It is believed that upon reconsideration all of the claims are now in compliance with 35 USC 112 and free of the prior art. Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Signature of Practitioner

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